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# The Hongkong Telegraph.

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## "Korea May Blow Up"

### W. Europe Union Prospects

Brussels, Feb. 19.—M. Paul Henri Spaak, the Belgian Prime Minister and Foreign Minister, today told the Foreign Affairs Committee of the Chamber of Deputies that a Western European Conference could be expected shortly, it was reliably learned here.

His disclosure came as the Belgian Foreign Office announced officially that in Brussels, the Hague and Luxembourg, British and French envoys had exchanged views with governments to which they were accredited regarding the "Bevin Plan" for closer co-operation in Western Europe.

M. Spaak told the deputies that Mr. Ernest Bevin's speech in the House of Commons last month was "a milestone in Britain's history" because it showed Britain was now "aware that she is European."

"The three Benelux countries—Belgium, The Netherlands and Luxembourg—asked for a continuance of the talks with Britain and France during which they intend to be represented by one joint single delegation," he said.

An agreement for a Western Union did not close the door to the possibility of a future agreement with Eastern Europe, he added.—Reuter.

### BANDITS SLAY FOUR MEN

Manila, Feb. 19.—A gang of bandits killed a cold blooded police chief of the Nueva Ecija town of Munoz, two Philippine Army soldiers and a Philippine Scout after holding up a fleet of 25 passenger buses and freight trucks at the village of Lombay last night, a correspondent of the Manila Evening News reported this afternoon.

There were more than 100 victims of the nocturnal marauders while the loot was preliminarily estimated at several thousand dollars in cash and jewellery.

Thus far, there is no official confirmation of the daring and bloody mass holdup from the constabulary authorities, though the latter are understood to be investigating the report.—Reuter.

### 1,000 MPH PLANE

Washington, Feb. 19.—A Douglas Skyrocket needed no jet and search plane, designed to reach 1,000 miles per hour, has successfully completed its first flight tests at Muroc, California, the United States Navy disclosed today.

The plane was flown at relatively low speeds on the test flights but has been built to study flight problems at speeds near that of sound—650 to 750 miles per hour.—Reuter.

### EDITORIAL

#### Public Playgrounds

HONGKONG citizens have always been miserably neglected in the matter of public parks and playing grounds, and in certain respects the position is worse today than ever. On the island the only area within easy distance of the city, where people can stroll or sit down amid pleasant surroundings, is the Botanical Gardens; Kowloon residents are denied even this restricted amenity. For relief from the congested streets they must hike into the hills. In the same way public playing grounds are at a premium on both sides of the harbour. In Hongkong, Happy Valley, Sookunpoo and Causeway Bay have been neatly, but decisively parcelled off for private clubs, and in Kowloon the same has happened with King's Park. The children are woefully forgotten when it comes to providing spaces in which they can play in safety. Before the war there were three such playing grounds in Chatham Road and Cox's Path and they served a useful purpose. The sites remain, but there are no facilities for the children—no swings, no see-saws, no "glant strides," no sandpits: just waste pieces of ground. Surely it is not asking too much for these areas to

### IMAM WAS MURDERED

Cairo, Feb. 19.—The 85-year-old Imam of Yemen, yesterday reported to have died, was assassinated with three of his sons and the Prime Minister, reports here tonight said.

The Arab League Council tonight examined the situation in the Yemen as conflicting reports of developments there reached Cairo.

Earlier today, the League decided to send a commission to Sanaa, capital of the Yemen, to clarify the situation.

The Imam's death was reported last month, but later denied by his representative in Cairo, who protested to the Egyptian Government.

Yesterday, the Arab League received a cable from the Imam's counsellor, El Sayed El Kabst, announcing the ruler's death.

Tonight, another cable was received from Al Wazir, the new Imam, confirming the former Imam, Yahya's, death and announcing his succession to the throne.—Reuter.

## Truman Launches His Presidential Campaign

Washington, Feb. 19.—President Truman, in a speech tonight formally launching his campaign for the Presidential election next November, laid down a 10-year programme for the expansion of agricultural output, for an increase of employment and for higher minimum wages.

He declared: "It can be done—it will be done." Truman blamed the Republican Party for the "worst depression in history," which, he said, brought "agriculture to ruin, business to collapse and labour to despair."

The President gave his speech before nearly 1,000 Democratic Party leaders from every state in the nation in celebration of "Jackson Day."

President Truman declared: "The party of progressive liberalism in the United States, the party that carried on the traditions of Jefferson and Jackson, the party that has four times in succession received the people's mandate, is the Democratic Party."

#### YEAR OF CHALLENGE

"This year its mandate must again be considered by the people for renewal. This is the year of challenge. I propose we meet that challenge head on."

"The people will again decide whether they want the forces of positive progressive liberalism to continue in office, or whether, in these challenging times, they want to entrust their government to those forces of conservatism which believe in the benefit of the few at the expense of many."

President Truman's action in stressing the liberal aspects of the Democratic Party was a clear ap-

## Warning MUST BE GIVEN INDEPENDENCE

### Report Made To UN

Lake Success, Feb. 19.—The chairman of the United Nations Korean Commission today warned the Little Assembly—which is boycotted by Russia—that Korea might "blow up" and set off a "vaster cataclysm in Asia and the world" if its people's hopes of gaining independence through the United Nations were shattered.

Mr K. P. S. Menon of India, emphasising that the Soviet authorities controlling the Northern Korean Zone had kept the Commission from organising nationwide elections, told the 51-nation interim group that for years "the Korean people have been hankering for their independence and will not brook any further delay in its consummation."

Mr Menon said his Commission had been forced to return to Lake Success to ask advice on how to proceed in face of the adamant Soviet refusal to comply with Assembly recommendations that national Korean elections be held by March 31 as a prelude to independence.

The chairman departed from the prepared text to question recent reports of a new provisional government set up in Russian-occupied Northern Korea for the purpose of wrecking United Nations efforts at establishing a national Korean government.

#### READY FOR INDEPENDENCE

He said he had checked with United Nations officials at Seoul and, according to them there had been "no recent change in the character of the regime set up in North Korea." He said the fact was "this regime was set up before the United Nations Commission arrived, so it cannot be said to have been designed to make the United Nations Commission impotent."

"If Korea is keen on independence, she also is ready for it," declared Mr Menon. He said Korea certainly was not less fitted to set up a democratic government than Japan.

He added that in Korea there was "persuasive rebelliousness against military occupation" and widespread criticism of General Hodge, commander of the American-occupied zone.

"Hodge-baiting, in fact, is a fashionable hobby in Korea," said Mr Menon. "For one, feel it is a more healthy sign of democracy than MacArthur worship in Japan."

He said he wanted to make it clear "that what obstructed the progress of Korea to an independent state was not the existence of defects in the national temperament but rather the persistence of tension in the international situation."

The India diplomat said his eight-member Commission was "all but unanimous in thinking that a separate government which may be established in South Korea cannot be a national government as defined in the resolution of the General Assembly."

He said the majority of the Commission favoured holding elections in the Southern Zone, but only for "consultative purposes." He said the Commission felt it should be "entitled to take a sympathetic note of any move for unification of Korea by such means as conference between leaders of the North and South before or after the proposed elections in South Korea."

The United States has advocated going through with elections in the Southern Zone, setting up the elected government as the national regime.—United Press.

### Black Marketing Justifiable

Tubingen, Feb. 19.—Black marketing is justifiable if it contributes to a possible saving of life, according to the ruling of a German criminal court here today in a verdict unprecedented in the American Zone.

The court acquitted of black-marketing charges a 51-year-old manufacturer from Calw, Wuertemberg, accused of illegally giving a pair of shoes for his sick son for 800 marks.

The father pleaded that normal German sources were unable to provide shoes of the right size for the boy, whose one old pair had caused infections which threatened his life.—Reuter.

### Bomber Crashes: 16 Killed

Brisbane, Feb. 19.—Sixteen members of the RAAF were killed when a Lincoln bomber from Laverton, near Melbourne, crashed when attempting to land at Amberley aerodrome about 30 miles from Brisbane on Thursday evening.

Eyewitnesses said that the plane appeared to have overshot the runway. When coming back a second time after trying to gain height the plane crashed and immediately burst into flames. Sixteen bodies were recovered.—Associated Press.

### LAB. HOLDS PAISLEY

#### Liberal-Conservative Coalition Beaten

Paisley, Scotland, Feb. 19.—Labour today retained the Parliamentary constituency of Paisley, near Glasgow.

The Labour candidate, Mr Douglas H. Johnston, was elected by a majority of 8,545 votes over the National candidate, Mr J. John MacCormick, Vice-Chairman of the Scottish Liberal Party. The voting was: Mr Johnston 27,213 votes against Mr MacCormick 20,668.

Paisley voted Liberal from 1931 till 1945, when Viscount Corvedale, son of the late Lord Baldwin, former Conservative Prime Minister, was returned as a Labour Member.

#### TEST CASE

The voting figures in the 1945 election were: Viscount Corvedale 25,156; Mr T. G. D. Galbraith, Conservative, 14,820; Lady Glen-Coats, Liberal, 4,532; Mr A. R. Eagles, Independent, 765.

Fraser Wright, Reuter's political correspondent, comments: "Paisley was a test case for a Conservative-Liberal coalition against Labour."

The Government win by 6,500 votes will be a disappointment to the Conservatives, who favour such a coalition. On the other hand, it vindicates the orthodox Liberal Party which nationally has condemned such anti-government coalitions, warning that, if they develop, they will result in the extinction of the Liberals.

The number of Conservative-Liberal local coalitions, actual or projected, is very small, but it has been on the increase and it greatly worries the Liberals who, despite only 12 seats in Parliament, still represent at least 3,000,000 votes in Britain.

The Liberals, while they preserve their separate identity, still have the capacity to decide a general election.—Reuter.

### Riverside Explosion

Bayonne, New Jersey, Feb. 19.—An explosion rocked the Hudson River waterfront this morning and police said a fire had broken out in the Tidewater Oil Company plant here.

There were no immediate reports of any casualties.—Reuter.

## British Spokesman Replies To Chilean President

London, Feb. 19.—The Foreign Office said on Thursday that maintenance of British bases in the Antarctic constitutes neither aggression nor provocation.

The statement came as Britain's answer to a speech on Wednesday by Gonzalez Videla at the Chilean Antarctic base on Greenwich Islands, protesting against "aggression and armed violence" by "out word" imperialism.

The British spokesman told a news conference that "in respect to maintaining ourselves in territory which Britain has long legally claimed, it does not appear to constitute an act of aggression or in any sense an act of provocation."

He volunteered his statement, saying that he was prompted by the Chilean president's "remarks."

In response to questions, he said the government was "in contact" with the United States on the subject of rival Anglo-Argentine-Chilean claims in the Antarctic "as we are on many other matters."

## Jewish Terrorist Shoots Two British Soldiers In Back OUTRAGE IN CROWDED STREET

Jerusalem, Feb. 19.—Two British soldiers were shot in the back by a Jewish terrorist in a crowded main street in the heart of Jerusalem today. One died and the other was seriously wounded.

The soldiers were stated to have been strolling along the Jaffa road with their rifles slung over their shoulders when the terrorist crept up behind them and shot them with a pistol. As they collapsed, he grabbed their rifles and made off among the crowd of shoppers.

Some passengers in a Jewish bus were slightly hurt by flying glass when a road mine was detonated near a bus passing the Government printing press building in Jerusalem, it was officially stated.

A Jewish dawn patrol found and removed a barrel bomb on the Jerusalem-Jaffa road, official reports said.

Four Jews were killed and three wounded in Haifa today when Jewish and Arab gunmen raced through the streets of Haifa, firing with tommy-guns at passing traffic.

An Arab bus came under Jewish fire on the Bethlehem road today, another official report said.

Shots were fired from a Jewish convoy passing a police road block near Gaza Airport last night and the police manning the block returned the fire.

#### JEWS IN TRAINING

From Vienna, it was reported today that Jewish sources there said 1,000 young Jews, mostly from Rumania and Poland, were being trained in Austria for Hagannah, the Jewish defence force in Palestine.

More than 20,000 young Jewish displaced persons were still awaiting training in the Western zones of Austria, they said.

The six-to-eight weeks' course included partisan tactics, sabotage, gymnastics and theoretical training in the use of all modern weapons, especially bombs.

Each group was sent to Palestine by underground channels as soon as it had finished its training, the sources said.—Reuter.

#### GOVERNMENT CRITICISED

Jerusalem, Feb. 19.—A Jewish Agency spokesman accused the Palestine government on Thursday of having contributed to the "indirect subsidy of the Arab war effort" by allocating a sum of £300,000 to the "supreme Moslem Council" without providing sufficient control on how it will be spent.

The spokesman said: "Jews consider it entirely proper that places like the mosque of Omar and others should be repaired when necessary with government assistance, but in a situation like the present a neutral government cannot—if it really is neutral—give such a fund over to the supreme Moslem council—which is closely connected with the Arab Higher Executive—the body which looted the attack on the Jews and the United Nations."

"The supreme Moslem council was headed by the exiled Mufti of Jerusalem from 1922 until his flight from Palestine during the 1937 anti-Zionist troubles, and even today the council's members maintain that the Mufti is their head as they never recognised his dismissal," the spokesman added.

There were no immediate reports of any casualties.—Reuter.

"We know that whereas the Arab League has funds, the Mufti has not, and this will enable him to improve his financial position," said the spokesman, at the same time demanding the strictest and most independent public supervision when funds are entrusted for religious purposes.

The Palestine government's transfer of £200,000 to the Supreme Moslem Council was officially announced on Wednesday under a new retroactive computation of taxes and was intended to be earmarked, a government statement said, for the maintenance of Moslem religious buildings and for the establishment of a new Moslem orphanage.—Associated Press.

#### ECONOMIC BOYCOTT

Cairo, Feb. 19.—A reliable source said on Thursday that the Arab League Political Committee has decided on an economic boycott against countries which support the United Nations decision to partition Palestine, and those countries which will be joining the international force which the United Nations Palestine Commission is planning to send to Palestine to implement the decision. The source added that the league decision will not be put into effect before the question of sending an international police force is finally decided.—Associated Press.

## China's New Relief Levies

### Hongkong Collection

Nanking, Feb. 20.—Total proceeds from "special relief levies"—China's newest source of revenue designed to pay the rich—were fixed at NC\$10,000,000,000 by the sponsor Committee yesterday and of this amount Shanghai alone is expected to raise NS\$5,500,000,000.

The new levies are due to begin on April 1 simultaneously in all cities including Hongkong and Macao and are collectable in one lump sum.

Levies on personal properties will be 10 per cent of total value exceeding NC\$5,000,000,000 and on corporation assets 20 per cent of total value exceeding NC\$10,000,000,000.

The Committee formulated a set of rules for assessing the value of properties held.

Among other classes of people, inebriated and retired army and civil officials in possession of large personal wealth will be urged to contribute voluntarily "as an example to others."—Reuter.

## Birthrate Down In England

London, Feb. 20.—The birthrate in England and Wales in 1945 was the lowest of all the principal countries of the world except Belgium, according to official statistics published today.

The number of live births in 1945 was 679,937, equal to 15.9 per thousand of the population. This rate was lower than in 1944 or 1943, but with these exceptions higher than any rate since 1930.

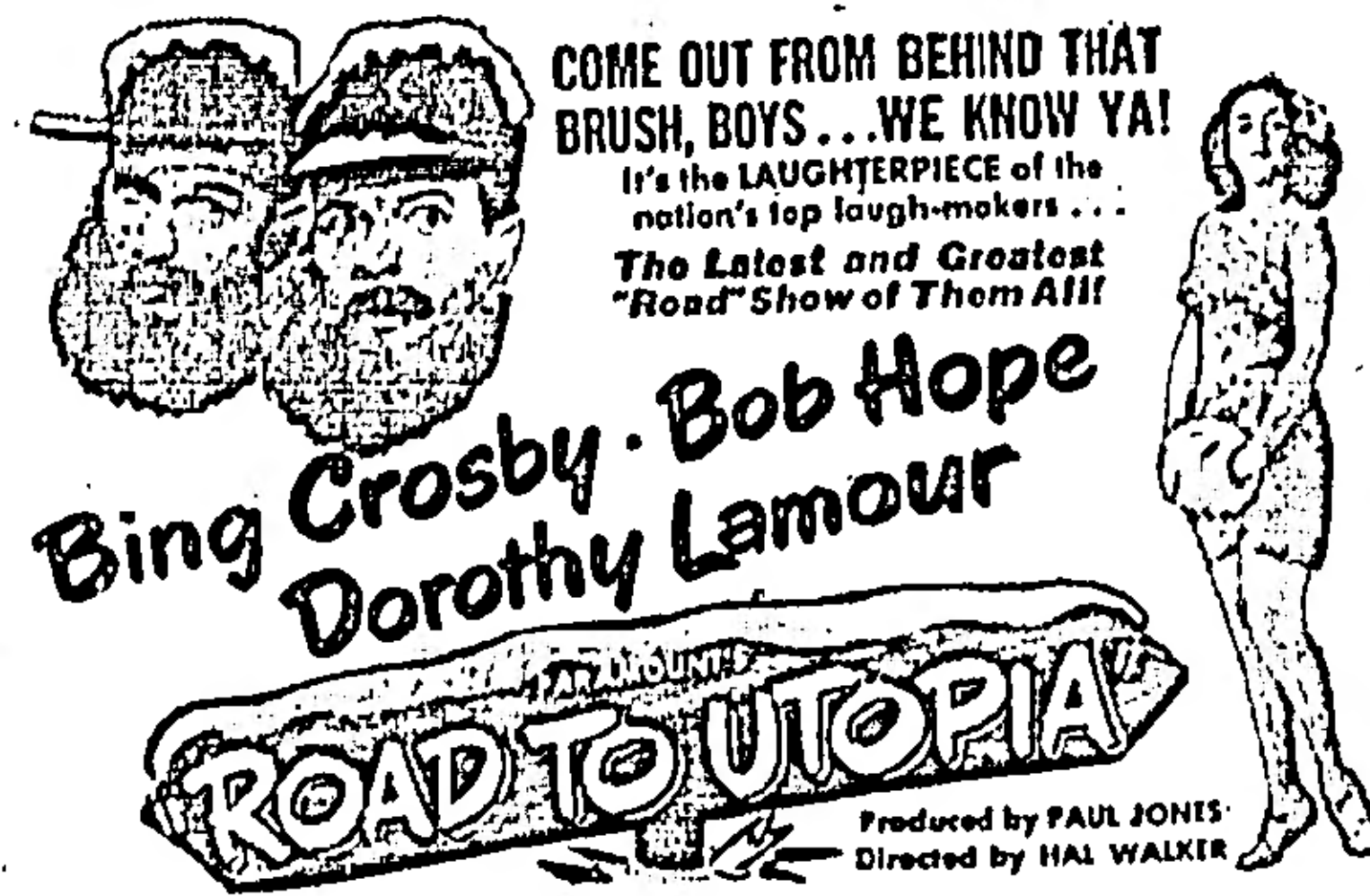
Illegitimate births totalled 63,420, the highest number and percentage ever recorded in England and Wales.

A rise in the number of marriages and the continued increase in the number of divorces was recorded. The population of England and Wales in 1945 was 48,000,000 compared with 41,400,000 in 1939.—Reuter.



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ONLY**KING'S**AT 2.30, 5.15,  
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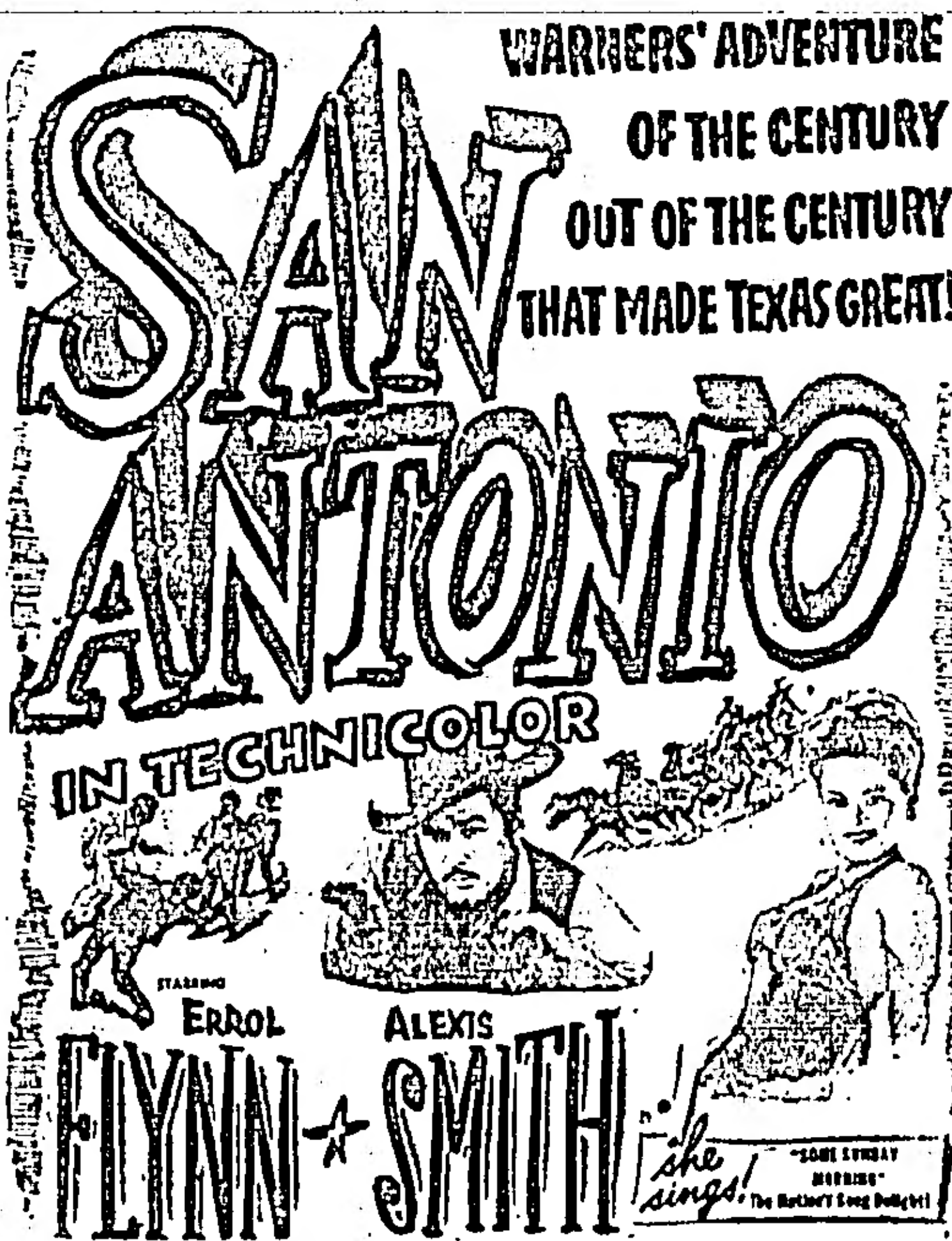
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THE WILDERNESS A STAGE FOR HEROIC ADVENTURE!  
UNPARALLELED THRILLS IN INCOMPARABLE NEW VITACOLOR!

"Don't look now, but you've just ended a sentence with a preposition!"

## Hornless cows and sheep without tails

by MARY BALL

CATTLE with horns will soon be as antiquated as ploughing with oxen. Already hornless or "polled" cattle are to be seen on many farms in England.

In modern milk production and dairy management farmers are finding quiet and placid cows give more milk and are less prone to disease.

A dig from another cow's horns when she is being driven in for milking will upset and worry a cow, and she may not give all the milk she should, so modern farmers are de-horning their dairy cattle.

These polled animals appear to be less spiteful, and, of course, can do no damage to other animals.

Farmers who feed their cattle in yards find they can get more dehorned than horned cattle into the same space, and they need less room when being fed from troughs.

Cattle bred for meat production are also being polled, especially in Ireland. This results in first-class, unbruised carcasses.

In many markets dehorned steers will fetch 20s. more than horned animals of the same quality.

### How the horns are burned off

It is at present the custom for farmers to poll their cattle at an early age. Caustic potash has been used to remove horn from calves.

A more modern method, however, is by use of an electric hot iron.

This electric dehorning is a simple routine job, requiring little time or fuss. The iron burns off the horn, and sears a ring of tissue round the base with no damage to the calf.

Some polled breeds of cattle are already in existence, but research workers are trying to breed polled strains of all the important breeds of dairy and beef cattle, which will save all bother of dehorning.

Probably a start will be made on Ayrshire dairy cattle. They

are generally regarded as one of the best breeds for milk production, but the horns are rather large, set wide apart, and have a characteristic upward curve.

These "hat-peg" cattle, as they are called, are becoming very popular with farmers who specialise in milk production, but their horns are a drawback to successful dairy management.

It has been suggested that the Ayrshires could be crossed with Red Polls (cattle very common in Norfolk and Suffolk) and one of the existing hornless breeds.

It may take five generations or more to produce a hundred percent polled animal as the result of this crossing.

### Breeders work on new theories

Farmers who try out the method may then be able to breed polled progeny into a herd.

Dr John Hammond, of the Cambridge School of Agriculture, a foremost authority on animal genetics, is working along these lines.

Practical breeders and progressive farmers are trying to carry out Dr Hammond's theories.

If they are successful, we shall see yet another change in the characteristics of farm animals.

After 33 years, geneticists have bred a tailless sheep.

Purpose of the "no tail" sheep is to eliminate docking, which takes up many hours of the shepherd's time.

Having lost a sheep without a tail, scientists are trying to improve on the other characteristics of the animal, paying special attention to fleece and body formation.

Pigs are easy to experiment on.

Scientists and breeders find that pigs are easy to experiment with.

Modern breeds of pig are descended from very small and slightly built animals. Today it is possible to fatten an animal of the larger breeds to weigh 1,000lb., or to feed specially for small joints and lean bacon.

There are now 13 recognised breeds of pigs in Britain.

Suffolk Pitches, one of Britain's most popular types of farm horses, which were once fat-footed, have been bred up to a finer trend.

Domestic fowls have been bred from birds which once laid only a single clutch of eggs in a year.

The aim of modern farming appears to be the production of utility stock, which will save labour, give greater service, and provide more food.

## Politics and Personalities — by — "CROSS-BENCHER"

London, Feb. 1.  
THE political flashpoint is Mr Bevan's quarrel with the doctors.

This is likely to have repercussions far beyond the question of the National Health Service.

That is why Mr Bevan fired his broadside against the plebs, the vote will go against him, he said it was being taken unfairly, before it even began.

What will happen then? Mr Bevan will in due course report to the Cabinet that he cannot carry out his plans.

The Cabinet will ask him to compromise. Mr Bevan is no compromiser. He will resign instead.

Then the Government's head-aches really will begin.

Mr Bevan, freed from the trammels of office, is just the focal point for which the malcontents are looking.

He and Mr Dalton might even enter into an unholy alliance.

Mr Bevan would have you believe that the doctors are defying the Act of Parliament.

This is not so. The Act permits them to join the service or not, according to their wish.

On the terms Mr Bevan dictates they are quite reasonable in declining the offer.

But it is not the doctors who need worry. It is Mr Attlee.

### Farce . . . tragedy

THE Geneva tariff agreements should have provided the most important debate of this session.

Here was the chance to state the Empire case. It developed into a crazy gang performance, with most speakers attacking their own side.

This was the inevitable result of the Opposition amendment which tried to ride two horses at once.

The Secretary for Overseas Trade, 40-year-old former L.M.S. railwayman Mr A. G. Bottomley, read every word of his sermon. And read it dully and unconvincingly.

Mr R. W. G. Mackay, Socialist M.P. for North-West Hull, made a penetrating analysis of the

situation, and voted for neither side.

Mr Norman Smith, Socialist M.P. for South Nottingham, voted against his leaders.

Mr Peter Thorneycroft's chief quarrel with Imperial Preference was that it has been ardently championed by Lord Beaverbrook.

It was the tail end of the pantomime season.

Mr Robert Boothby knew what he wanted and said it plainly. But the Empire found a champion in Mr G. Odey, the new Tory M.P. for Howdenshire.

In an excellent maiden speech he alone had the courage to point out that the times called for increased, not reduced, Imperial Preferences.

### Left and Right

I WROTE recently of the impending split between the Right and the Left in the Socialist Party.

I understand the first skirmish has taken place.

The Socialist executive has considered the positions of Mr Zilliacus (Gateshead) for being too Left of the party line, and Mr Alfred Edwards (Middlesbrough East) for being too Right of it.

Mr Edwards is unconcerned. As a director of private enterprise he is too busy seeking new business in America to bother with such things.

Mr Zilliacus may be called upon to defend himself.

If his defence is as long-winded and wordy as his speeches and letters to the Press, the executive will be asleep before it is half-way through.

### 3 men, 1 seat

THREE dismissed Ministers have occupied the same seat, at the end of the bench below the gangway in the third row, on three successive days.

But their attitudes are very different.

Mr Dalton got there first. He believes it is only a temporary tummy for him.

But he should not be too sure. The Government have gone from strength to strength since his departure.

## Turned 40?—You may live till 70

BABIES born today in Europe enjoy a life expectancy nearly double that of their ancestors of 150 years ago.

For, according to Professor Dudley Kirk, of Princeton University, in a new book on Europe's population, the average duration of life has risen in that time from 35 years to 60.

Highest figure is achieved by the Netherlands with 65.1 for males. Rumania is at the bottom of the list with 40.2 years. For Britain the figure is just on 60.

A baby girl, European-born, starts with a life expectancy of one to six years greater than her brother.

In general, when Europeans reach 40, they can look forward to fulfilling the Biblical allotment of three-score-years-and-ten.

Commenting on the Netherlands longevity lead in the inter-war years, Professor Kirk says it was due to superior nutrition, highly developed public health programmes, stable economy, and a well-educated population.

### FIGHTING DISEASE

The struggle against disease has paid big dividends. Longer life still for Europeans, depends on the success of attacks on the diseases of late middle life and old age.

Expansion of Europe has been the dominating feature of modern history. By 1940 its population, excluding the Soviet Union, had grown to 400,000,000.

In another 15 years it is expected to reach 420,000,000, then begin to decline.

While now four people reach working age to every three of working age who die off, the figures will then be reversed.

Russia is the exception. Her population will rise, Professor Kirk forecasts, to 250,000,000 by 1970, and on growing for some years after.

Britain, with 20,000,000, is the biggest migrating country. America was the goal for most of the migrants.

Norwegians went abroad because of "lack of access to profitable occupations."

Religious influence in Europe's progress is also shown in births. Professor Kirk finds that Protestants and Jews usually have lower fertility than Roman Catholics.

But Vienna is an exception. Just before the war its birth-rate had sunk to 5.4 a thousand.

"It is probably not accidental that Vienna, for so many years recognised as the centre of medical research, should have the lowest birth-rate in the world," says Professor Kirk.

Europe is now five times as densely populated as the rest of the world, with England and Wales (80 per cent of the population), the most highly urbanised part, Albania, 88.3 per cent, is the most rural.

Europe is expected to become wholly literate by the early 1970s.

Bernard Drew

## ATTLEE'S WOULD-BE REBELS

Then there was Mr Bellenger, the forgotten man. Dismissed for no reason except that he had no private army to call upon when trouble came.

And, finally, Mr John Wilmot, former Minister of Supply. He looks as cheerful as a prosperous company director. And so he should. For there is what he is.

He is a director of Messrs. Ardington and Hobbs, Ltd., and of Messrs. Boulton and Paul.

### Mr Greathart

THE Minister of Pensions, Mr "Geordie" Buchanan, is a man of warm humanity.

That is a great asset in the House of Commons. When things are difficult, a little kindly sentiment is a sure line of retreat.

There is nothing false about Mr Buchanan. He genuinely loves his fellow-men. His job calls for sympathy, so for once he is the right man in the right place.

He takes his place among those who have no enemies.

### More jobs

A board is going to be set up to manage the railway, hotels, nationalised with the railways. This will make some jobs.

I prophesy that the chief job at £5,000 a year will go to Lord Inman, who always pops out of his obscurity when there's a good job going.

He will have two assistants at £2,500 a year each. Nice work.

### Tailpiece

Mr. Francis Williams, former publicity manager to the Prime Minister, now writes a "Labour Point of View" column for the Kemsley Press. So he has turned Thurtell.

## BY THE WAY

### by Beachcomber

OWING to the mess they made of their forms, the three Persians were asked to go to the Ministry of Bubble-blowing, where the following conversation took place.

Official: I'm afraid, gentlemen, these forms are no good.

Kazbulah: Thus did we say, sir, when of reading them. No good, I said to Ashura. No good, quoth Rizamughan, no good. Then for forms, we said, sir, he yes. Then did Kazbulah—

Official: Excuse me—

Ashura: We excuse, sir. It is—

Official: One moment, please, these forms—

All three: Ho, ha, please, no good! We all say it, ho yes, you and us Persians. Forms no good.

Official: What exactly do you want? These forms—

Rizamughan: We asked no forms, please. What, sir, do you want? Official: Let's get this straight. I will give you some more forms.

All three (loudly): Please, no good! We all say forms bad, you and us Persians. We give you no forms, why, therefore, give you them to us? Forms no good, you say, ho yes, then why forms, please?

Official (grinding his teeth): Your forms are all wrong.

All three: Hear and hear! Ho yes, forms all wrong. Tear out, say we to you, please.

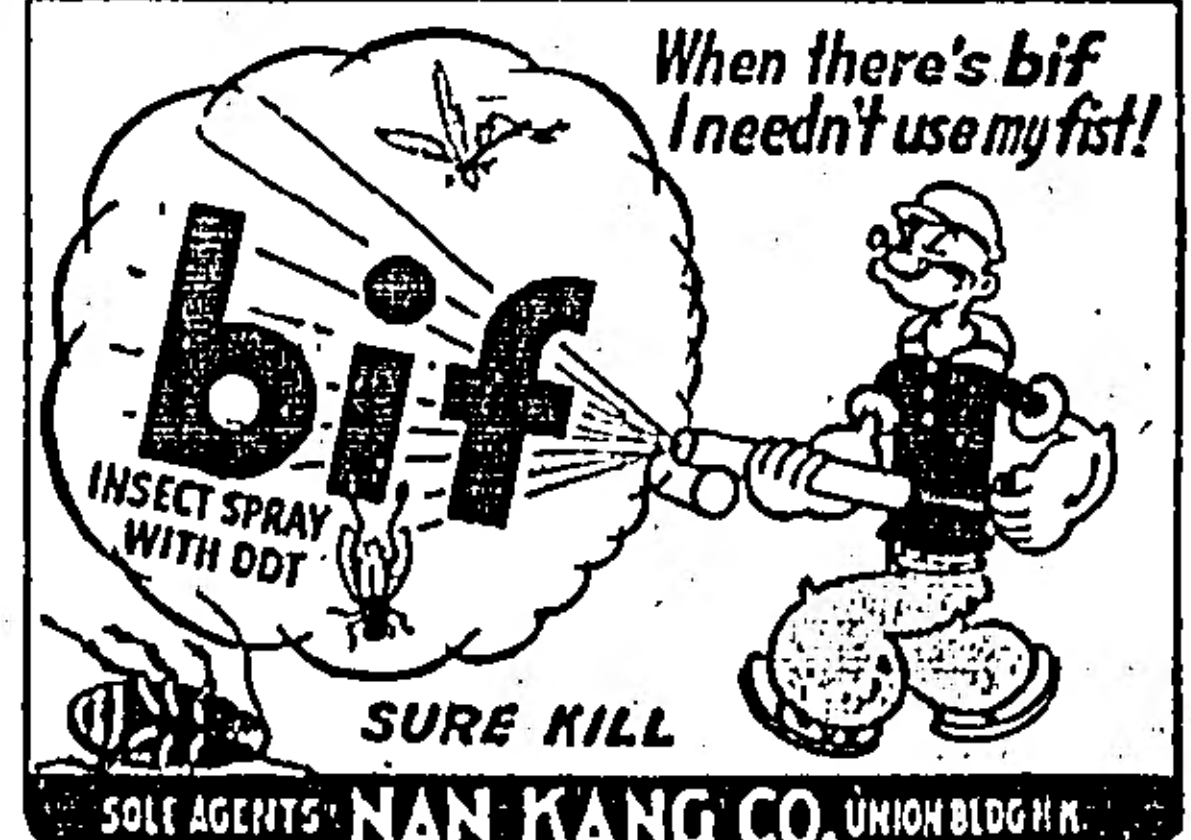
(Conference adjourned.)

### Old days in Ahahaland

THE Moshangis are the chief enemies of the Ahahans, because they are their nearest neighbours. Their battles only end when their yells have driven away all the eatable animals within fifty miles. Sheer hunger forces a retreat on both sides. But the Moshangis are cunning. They tether a supply of animals a mile or two away, retreat quickly, gorge themselves, and return to surprise the Ahahans.

But the Ahahans, too, are cunning. They have eaten so much before the campaign that their meat is quickly over, and it is the Moshangis who are surprised. But sometimes the Moshangis only pretend to have eaten too much, and are more alert than they seem. On those occasions the Ahahans pretend to have eaten too little and to be excessively weak. And so both sides are surprised when the fighting recommences.

### NANCY Demanding Her Money's Worth



By Ernie Bushmiller



## Women BEAUTY ARTS

By LOIS LEEDS



Posed by Barbara Britton for Lois Leeds.

About Six Foot Girls and other interesting subjects.

### "DEAR LOIS LEEDS"

"Dear Lois Leeds: Should all women who are 5 ft. 7 in. tall weigh exactly the same? TOOTS."

No, the bone structure makes a great difference.

"Dear Lois Leeds: Is a girl who is six feet tall awkward-looking in a bathing suit? NELL J."

No, the tall girls are the handsomest bathing beauties.

"Dear Lois Leeds: Can any girl with a fair figure learn modelling? TWO GIRLS."

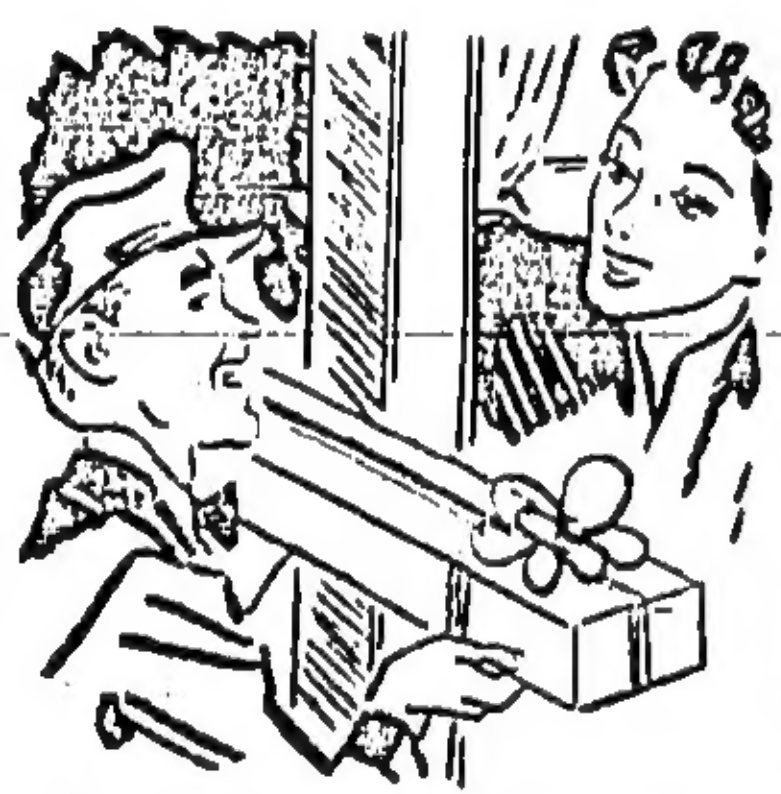
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### Minute Makeups

GABRIELLE



Remember little things: names, birthdays, one's favorite color, flower, hobby. It is so flattering to have people interested in you. It works both ways, of course! A sense of humor is important, too—to laugh at yourself but not at others. Personality is charm, it is being nice to people, being interested in listening, giving flattery sincerely. There's always something nice about people.

### Antique—But Up-To-Date!



Madame Schlaparelli's models always smack of fancy and luxury. It is a pleasure to look at this beautiful, well-worked dress with its oval chemise-cut and funny pouches which give the skirt the modern fullness.

### SIDE GLANCES

By Galbraith



"When I told him she was a son-of-a-bitch he said he knew it—I guess you can't do much for a guy who likes old women!"

## PLAN TO PREVENT YANGTSE FLOODS

A comprehensive plan to prevent the Yangtse, one of the largest rivers in the world and main artery of trade and commerce with Central China, from flooding, has been drawn up by a Dutch conservancy expert, Jan Ringers, says a Renter report.

### CONDEMN SEX-THRILL MAGAZINES

Educationalists meeting in London recently condemned comics, "sex-thrill" magazines, the happy-ending story, Just William and Dick Barton—and approved of adolescents having flirtations.

This is what they said:—

"Filtration.—Dr. Marjorie Tait, organizing secretary, Union of Mixed Clubs and Girls' Clubs:—

"An important experience in education for family life could be provided for adolescents by co-educational clubs which presented the right kind of opportunities for flirtation."

"Comics.—Radio.—Miss Crystal Herbert, editor of "Family," journalist and broadcaster: "My chief objection to comics is not that they are abominably illustrated, printed on bad paper, and the text is usually a mixture of American slang and English baby-talk."

"I have a stronger objection to the lurid magazines full of romance and sex-thrill."

"And I deplore the happy-ending story in women's magazines."

"I personally dislike 'Dick Barton' and 'Just William'."

Films.—Miss Mary Field, Director of Children's Entertainment Films, G.B.E., Ltd.: "Films do play a disruptive part in family life."

"Dear Lois Leeds: Is good grooming taught in any schools? MOTHER."

Yes, and more and more schools are finding that this programme is of tremendous value.

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## U.S.-SIAM MILITARY TALKS

Lausanne, Switzerland, Feb. 19.—A Siamese military mission will meet senior American officers for "important discussions" in Washington next month, a reliable Siamese source told the Associated Press today.

The mission will be headed by Major-General Luang Sura Narong, chief of the Siamese Army Intelligence Branch, who arrived in Lausanne this week for consultation with the Siamese King.

After the Washington conference, the mission will undertake similar discussions with Philippine Army officers in Manila, the source said. — Associated Press.

## TRIPOLI CURFEW LIFTED

Tripoli, Feb. 19.—The curfew imposed in Tripoli on Tuesday, when British soldiers were called out to disperse Arab demonstrators against the British military administration, was lifted today.

Fifty-two people, including the President of Kotia (the Arab Nationalist bloc) and its secretary, were arrested.

Conditions have returned to normal and the situation throughout Tripoli is quiet. The state of emergency and the dusk-to-dawn curfew proclaimed after the disturbances was confined to Tripoli and not to the whole of the territory, as reported by an American news agency.

A British statement issued after the disturbances said that, in the course of a raid made on Tuesday morning on the headquarters of the Kotia Party, documents were found confirming reports of intimidation of sections of the Arab and Italian communities of Tripoli in order to influence the evidence they might give to the four-power commission appointed to report on the former Italian colonies to the Foreign Ministers' deputies.

"During the raid, a member of the Kotia Youth fired a shot at a British officer in the search party. Kotia supporters numbering 400 collected in the old Arab and moved toward the headquarters of the British military administration, and hysterically demonstrated against the arrest of their chief, Ali Fikri Hassan," the statement said.—Reuter.

## Sport Around The World:

### Gloucestershire Plans For Grace Centenary

Gloucester, Feb. 19.—Lt-Col. H. A. Henson, secretary of the Gloucestershire County Cricket Club, has announced the special arrangements being made to celebrate the centenary of the birth of W. G. Grace.

The game with Derbyshire at Bristol on July 14, 15 and 16 will be observed as the Centenary Match ("W.G.") was born on July 18, 1848).

During the game the memorial plaque which is being erected at the main gate will be unveiled. Also a souvenir brochure would be on sale, the proceeds of which would go to Tom Goddard's Benefit Fund.

"It seems appropriate that the Grand Old Man of the present Gloucestershire XI should benefit from the tribute paid to the 'G.O.M.' of cricket of all time," said Colonel Henson.

Colonel Henson also announced that the county ground at Bristol would be renamed "Grace's Ground" if there was sufficient evidence of public approval to the change.

The chairman and committee of Gloucestershire supported the change in name and considered that it would be appropriate as the site was selected by W. G. Grace himself, and the ground was laid out under his personal supervision.—Reuter.

## LOUIS-WALCOTT ROW

New York, Feb. 19.—Jersey Joe Walcott was today given an ultimatum by Joe Louis to sign up for the return world heavyweight contest in two weeks or lose the fight.

Louis made this ultimatum after a new hitch had developed in the negotiations for the fight, because Walcott has been asked for an undertaking that he will fight Louis for a third time, if the champion is beaten in the June encounter.

In the proposed contract for this third meeting, each contestant would receive 30 percent of the net takings. Walcott objected on the ground that he would have to fight three times before he could "get a champion's share of the gate."

Louis said that if Walcott does not sign for the return bout within two weeks, he will fight somebody else, "preferably Gus Lesnevich, world light-heavyweight champion." In reply to this, Walcott said: "If Louis thinks that he can put over Lesnevich or anybody else as a challenger, and draw a \$1,000,000.

# Nehru Cabinet May Topple

BY ROBERT MILLER

Bombay, Feb. 19.—India without the frail but steady hand of Mahatma Gandhi faces a possible government crisis which may result in the resignation of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, the Prime Minister, and Sardar V. Patel, Home Minister.

## SABOTAGE ATTEMPTS IN IRAQ

London, Feb. 19.—Attempts have been made to destroy the main water pipes and electrical lines belonging to the British authorities at the British air base of Shiabah, according to reports from Basra published by Baghdad newspapers.

The reports added that the Iraqi Governor of Basra province issued a communiqué that these installations belong to the Iraqi Government and any person destroying them will be arrested and severely punished.

Meanwhile, the political situation in Iraq remains unsettled. The popular movement is still pressing hard for realisation of demands which include the dissolution of parliament, solving of the bread crisis and economic problems, and purging in state machinery to eliminate all elements of old political cliques and complete curbing of British influence over internal affairs.

Kurdish demonstrators representing the northern district, demonstrated in Baghdad on Wednesday, carrying slogans for the release of all Barzani tribesmen and their leaders, and the Mulla Mustapha Barzani revolt.

Baghdad newspapers unanimously describe the present period as a "decisive test between popular power which is insisting on asserting its place and the clique of old politicians supported by British influence and a feudal system."—Associated Press.

## Parliament Dissolved

Baghdad, Feb. 19.—The Iraqi Government tonight decided to dissolve Parliament "because it does not represent the nation and was illegally elected."

The Premier, Syed Mohammed Ali Saad, and the Minister of Defence, Arshad Umari, left tonight for Basra, in the northern mountain area, where the Regent is now on holiday, to seek his final approval.

The decision to dissolve Parliament was taken after a six-hour meeting, and it follows the recent political tension since the resignation of the former Premier, Saleh Jabr, after Iraq's rejection of the recently signed treaty with Britain.—Reuter.

There is a nation-wide feeling of optimism in India, which is thoroughly justified by the progress the country has made and by the seemingly overwhelming difficulties she has overcome in five months, but even greater economic and administrative problems are ahead and different ideas of combatting them may bring a long-remembered split of the India Cabinet.

It is a question of ideologies, not personalities, which is forcing Nehru and his deputy Prime Minister further and further apart. Nehru, a Socialist, believes India's future is brightest if the entire nation is placed on economic planning along Socialist lines. Patel, on the other hand, champions free enterprise and believes that the country's industrialists and businessmen should be given a free hand to build up capitalistic investments which will return greater benefits to India than any Socialist schemes.

Gandhi was the only man capable of reconciling the two men, blending contrary ideas into compromises, but with his death none is able to harmonise the two schools of thoughts into a workable plan of action. Many authoritative sources believe that Nehru will be kicked upstairs into the Governor-General's job when Lord Mountbatten leaves in June.

## Darkest Cloud

Both Patel and Nehru, unselfish government servants, are willing to step down if they believe they are hindering the country's future. Although Nehru is now the top man in the country, Patel holds more political power as he controls most of the voting machinery and is backed to the hilt by powerful political organisations throughout India.

The darkest cloud on India's horizon is the grim spectre of famine in some sections this summer. The riots last autumn in the Punjab, which is India's bread basket—and the migration of millions of Moslems, Hindus and Sikhs have resulted in neglected crops, failure to harvest and to replant untold millions of acres of rich farm land on which a large part of the country depends for foodstuffs. Already reports tell of cereal shortages in many areas, and even Bombay is on strict bread rationing.

Gandhi's assassination ended communalism, at least temporarily, or postponed open warfare between Pakistan and India. How long it will be possible for Moslems to walk the streets of India with safety or Hindus to show themselves in Pakistan, none knows, for hatred is deeply rooted and the whole country could erupt into another civil war overnight, but right now "love thy brother" is the main theme which none dares to violate as nationalism and communalism were blamed for Gandhi's death and are mighty unpopular theories right now in India.

## Serious Inflation

India today is a government of experiments, some of which are working and others are proving costly, useless luxuries. Prohibition probably will be universally applied to all India by the year's end. Already there are "dry days" and 100 percent liquor taxes are predicted.

Strikes by young organisations feeling their oats have handicapped the country, and the 45-day work stoppage of the Bombay Port Trust exports for months and a half before stubborn elements on both sides finally compromised.

There is a serious inflation in India, and prices of foodstuffs and commodities have crept upward week after week. Eggs, meat and poultry are the latest examples of the price increases. Government complained that costs are twice as much as a year ago.

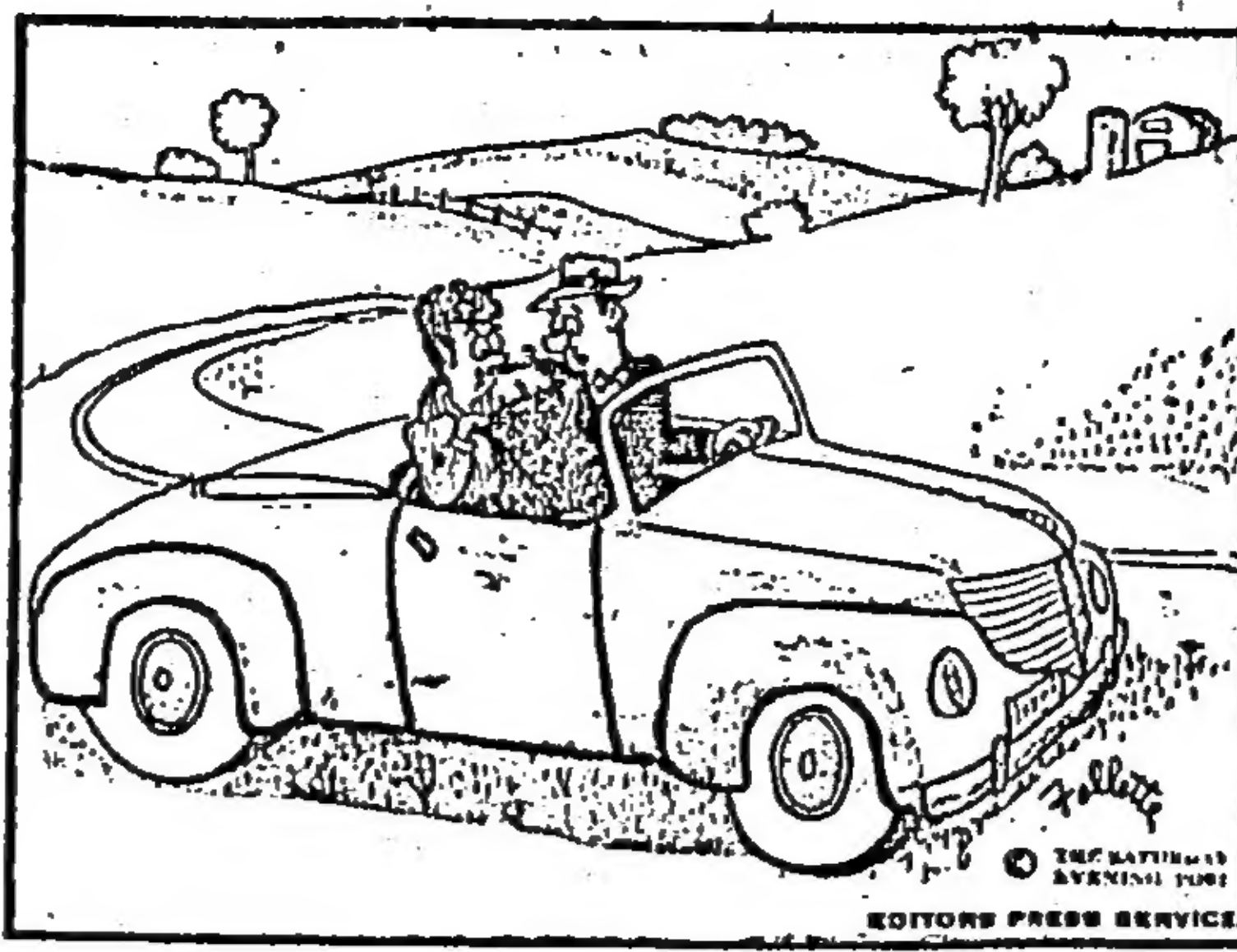
India's two troubling political headaches are Kashmir and Hyderabad, either of which could easily bring India and Pakistan to war if either should insist on going to fight. Land-locked Hyderabad continues to refuse pleas to abandon independence and join the Indian government.

## Pressure On Hyderabad

Although no official action has been taken by Hyderabad and its Nizam, there are reports of acute shortages of gasoline, oil and important imported commodities which must be shipped through India but which never seem to arrive at the Hyderabad destinations. Complaints to the Indian Government fall on sympathetic but deaf ears and result in loud denials that any sort of economic pressure is being applied to force Hyderabad into changing its mind.

Indians from every walk of life admit their country is faced with many problems and big ones, but all are optimistic about solving them and proudly point to the nation's accomplishments since August 15 when it seemed that only a miracle could prevent continued chaos and anarchy.

A prominent publisher explained it this way: "Certainly we have a tough row. And things are going to be worse probably before they get better, and we do not have experience. We are going to make plenty of mistakes but, never forget, we are learning everything we can and everything we do are doing by ourselves for it is our government and our country now, not Britain's."—United Press.



"Why, what a coincidence! It just so happens that I've got a gallon tin of petrol in my purse."

## Indonesian Leaders' Defence At Trial

Batavia, Feb. 19.—A claim that the sovereign government of the Republic of Indonesia had ceased to exist since the signing of the Linggadjati and Renville agreements with the Dutch was made by the defence today when the trial of 17 Indonesian revolutionary leaders began before a military high court at Jogjakarta, the Republican headquarters.

## Nepal's First Envoy To U.S. At White House

Washington, Feb. 19.—General Kaisher Sham Shere Jung Bahadur Rama, the Nepalese Ambassador to Great Britain and Minister to the United States, called at the White House today to present his letters of credence to President Truman.

Explaining the somewhat unusual arrangement of one man being a diplomatic representative to two countries separated by the Atlantic Ocean, Rama said:

"To Nepal, Britain and the United States are largely one and the same thing. We regard Great Britain and the United States as one great Anglo-Saxon hegemony."

He said he would return to London and come back to the United States just as often as his diplomatic duties required him to do so.

## Lincoln's Injunction

Presenting his credentials, Rama recalled that he last visited the United States in 1930 and remembered taking heart and hope from the inscription on the wall of the Lincoln Memorial: "Freedom shall not perish from this earth."

"President Roosevelt, of 'imperishable memory' had succeeded in doing more than Lincoln's injunction and had laid the world under a debt of endless and immense gratitude, 'proving to the hilt that the American is as good as his word, if not better,' he said.

The Minister said that a diplomat was sometimes described as an honest man sent abroad to lie for the good of his country.

"In these days of growing global consciousness, I prefer to believe that an envoy is sent abroad to speak the truth, cost what it may, for the good of the globe."

## Close Comradeship

"It will be my humble endeavour and particular care to promote between the United States and Nepal the mutual understanding and goodwill which arose out of close comradeship in many hard fought battles while defending the common frontiers of human liberty in lands other than our own."

President Truman expressed pleasure at the appointment of the Minister as the first Nepalese envoy to the United States.

"Your reputation for service to your country in both war and peace, and for your accomplishments as a representative of your Government in foreign capitals, has preceded your arrival in this country," President Truman said.—Reuter.

## United Europe Plan Favoured

Washington, Feb. 19.—A proposal was made by a Democratic member in the House Foreign Affairs Committee today that Congress should formally support Mr. Ernest Bevin's plan for a united Europe.

The member, Mr. Boggs, urged that a clause be written into the preamble of the foreign aid bill saying: "Congress would look with favour upon a federation of the participating nations."—Reuter.

## CHECK YOUR KNOWLEDGE

Answers  
1. By examining their scales. Each scale shows growth rings similar to those of a tree. 2. No. 3. Wool, hair and fur pressed together. 4. At Baku, Russian port on the Caspian Sea, more than 2,500 years ago. 5. 45 to 50 percent. 6. The stilius, a pointed piece of metal, bone or ivory used to imprint letters on tablets covered with wax. Correction  
It has been pointed out to us that the Telegraph's "Check Your Knowledge" on Wednesday was wrong in giving "The Maple Leaf For Ever" as Canada's National Anthem. The anthem is "O Canada."

# Killing Of Partisans Not A War Crime

Nuremberg, Feb. 19.—Eight senior officers of the German Army who fought in the Balkans during the war were found guilty and two were acquitted here today by the American War Crimes Tribunal, which, however, held that the killing of captured members of "illegal partisan bands" was not a war crime.

## MARITIME CONFERENCE DIVIDED

Geneva, Feb. 19.—The first big maritime conference called by the United Nations divided sharply at its opening here today when the four Scandinavian countries, supported by Australia, objected to the formation of an inter-governmental maritime organisation on discriminatory shipping practices.

The conference, attended by 120 delegates, and shipping experts from 36 countries, was called by the Economic and Social Council.

Norway, Denmark, Sweden and Finland said their governments were not convinced that the international maritime organisation was necessary and, if established, it should deal only with technical problems, such as safety rules.

Australia suggested that maritime problems should be dealt with by a sub-commission of the Economic and Social Council.

Britain, China, India, Eire and the United States, supporting the establishment of the new organisation, said it should deal also with the elimination of restrictive practices.

Sixty-eight nations were invited to the conference, of which 16 said they were unable to come, and another 16, including Russia, Rumania, Bulgaria, Byelo-Russia and the Ukraine, have not yet replied to the invitation.—Reuter.

## OUTWARD MAILS

Unless otherwise stated, registered articles and parcel posts close 30 minutes earlier than the ordinary mail. If mail close before 10 a.m., registered and parcels will close at 5 p.m. previous day.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 20  
Closing Times by Air  
Bangkok, Hongkong, Calcutta, Karachi, Bombay, Madras, Ceylon, Singapore, Rangoon, Birmah, Java, Sumatra, Malaya, Penang, Hongkong, Canton, Hankow, Shanghai, Tientsin, Peking, Moscow, Leningrad, Berlin, Frankfurt, Amsterdam, London, (Kowloon CPO) 3 p.m. (GPO) 3.30 p.m.  
Salmon and Paris, 3.30 p.m.  
Holloway, 3.30 p.m.  
Amoy, Shanghai, Canton, Hankow, Peking, Moscow, Leningrad, Berlin, Frankfurt, Amsterdam, London, (Kowloon CPO) 3 p.m. (GPO) 3.30 p.m.  
Closing Times by Sea & Train  
Swatow, Amoy and Hongkong (Sea) 2 p.m.  
Macao, Tientsin and Shekai (Sea) 2 p.m.  
Canton (Train) 2 p.m.  
U.S.A., Canada, Central & South America via San Francisco (No parcels for Canada) (Sea) 3 p.m.  
Japan (Ordinary letters and cards only) (Sea) 3 p.m.  
Manila (Sea) 3 p.m.  
Shanghai (Sea) 3 p.m.  
Macao, Tientsin and Shekai (Sea) 4 p.m.  
Canton (Sea) 5 p.m.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 21  
Closing Times by Air  
Bangkok, Hongkong, Calcutta, Karachi, Bombay, Madras, Ceylon, Singapore, Rangoon, Birmah, Java, Sumatra, Malaya, Penang, Hongkong, Canton, Hankow, Shanghai, Tientsin, Peking, Moscow, Leningrad, Berlin, Frankfurt, Amsterdam, London, (Kowloon CPO) 3 p.m. (GPO) 3.30 p.m.  
Salmon and Paris, 3.30 p.m.  
Holloway, 3.30 p.m.  
Amoy, Shanghai, Canton, Hankow, Peking, Moscow, Leningrad, Berlin, Frankfurt, Amsterdam, London, (Kowloon CPO) 3 p.m. (GPO) 3.30 p.m.  
Closing Times by Sea & Train  
Swatow, Amoy and Hongkong (Sea) 2 p.m.  
Macao, Tientsin and Shekai (Sea) 2 p.m.  
Canton (Train) 2 p.m.  
U.S.A., Canada, Central & South America via San Francisco (No parcels for Canada) (Sea) 3 p.m.  
Japan (Ordinary letters and cards only) (Sea) 3 p.m.  
Manila (Sea) 3 p.m.  
Shanghai (Sea) 3 p.m.  
Macao, Tientsin and Shekai (Sea) 4 p.m.  
Canton (Sea) 5 p.m.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 22  
Closing Times by Air  
Bangkok, Hongkong, Calcutta, Karachi, Bombay, Madras, Ceylon, Singapore, Rangoon, Birmah, Java, Sumatra, Malaya, Penang, Hongkong, Canton, Hankow, Shanghai, Tientsin, Peking, Moscow, Leningrad, Berlin, Frankfurt, Amsterdam, London, (Kowloon CPO) 3 p.m. (GPO) 3.30 p.m.  
Salmon and Paris, 3.30 p.m.  
Holloway, 3.30 p.m.  
Amoy, Shanghai, Canton, Hankow, Peking, Moscow, Leningrad, Berlin, Frankfurt, Amsterdam, London, (Kowloon CPO) 3 p.m. (GPO) 3.30 p.m.  
Closing Times by Sea & Train  
Swatow, Amoy and Hongkong (Sea) 2 p.m.  
Macao, Tientsin and Shekai (Sea) 2 p.m.  
Canton (Train) 2 p.m.  
U.S.A., Canada, Central & South America via San Francisco (No parcels for Canada) (Sea) 3 p.m.  
Japan (Ordinary letters and cards only) (Sea) 3 p.m.  
Manila (Sea) 3 p.m.  
Shanghai (Sea) 3 p.m.  
Macao, Tientsin and Shekai (Sea) 4 p.m.  
Canton (Sea) 5 p.m.

## ZBW BROADCAST

H.K.T.  
6. Studio: Children's Half Hour; 6.30. Studio: Portuguese Half Hour; 7. London Relay: World and Home News; 7.15. Studio: You Asked For It—Variety Request Programme Presented by Lynn Fraser; 8.15. "Stars of Variety"; 8.45. Studio: Vocal Recital by Harry T. Hart (with piano accompaniment by Betty Brown); 9. London Relay: News; 9.15. Studio: The "Brain Trust"; No. 3; 9.25. Interlude; 10.05. Puccini; 10.15. Studio: The "Brain Trust"; No. 4; 10.25. Interlude; 10.45. Puccini; 10.55. Studio: The "Brain Trust"; No. 5; 11.05. Interlude; 11.15. Studio: The "Brain Trust"; No. 6; 11.25. Interlude; 11.35. Studio: The "Brain Trust"; No. 7; 11.45. Interlude; 11.55. Studio: The "Brain Trust"; No. 8; 12.05. Interlude; 12.15. Studio: The "Brain Trust"; No. 9; 12.25. Interlude; 12.35. Studio: The "Brain Trust"; No. 10; 12.45. Interlude; 12.55. Studio: The "Brain Trust"; No. 11; 1.05. Interlude; 1.15. Studio: The "Brain Trust"; No. 12; 1.25. Interlude; 1.35. Studio: The "Brain Trust"; No. 13; 1.45. 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